

## ACTORS FRIGHTEN AWAY PEACE DOVE

Producers Assert—When  
Equity Spurns Their  
Concessions.

## WAR TO THE FINISH NOW

Theatre Owners Declare They  
Met Every Demand of  
the Strikers.

Prospect of a speedy amicable settlement of the actors' strike took wings last night when the Producing Managers Association announced that it had accepted an offer which had practically ended all of its original demands.

Thus frustrated in their attempts at peace, the managers declared that they would again take up the sword; they would reopen all theatres in the near future and would stand the ground until the actors should cry "Hold, enough."

The contract which they submitted to the Equity included, according to the managers, provision for recognition of the association and a clause which would provide for settlement of future differences between producers and actors, wage hands and musicians by arbitration.

The managers stated that they had offered the actors individual contracts which would invest by Actors Equity association with full power to represent and arbitrate for the individual actors. This contract would also have provided for notice before any future contract should be put into effect and for efforts at mediation. It was proposed that it run for a period of five years.

According to the managers, the actors refused to be bound any longer than until January 1, 1921. Both sides are said to have declared that they have taken their final stand in the conflict, and are unwilling to make further concessions.

## Bitter War Now Seen.

The theatrical war foreboded by the managers' announcement promises to be bitter, as the Equity has just announced a plan by which they profess to be able to fight the managers at their own game. This is a scheme for independent booking by the Equity, by which that organization would route productions of any friendly producer on a percentage basis, taking no part in supervising the show presented. This method, which is distinct from the post-sharing arrangement already under way, would have 500 independent theatres, including large motion picture houses, available throughout the country for its accomplishment.

The following statement from the managers was handed out late last night by Arthur Hopkins:

"The Producing Managers Association through its attorneys conveyed to the Equity an outline of conditions under which the actors' strike would be terminated and a recurrence of strikes in the theatre be made reasonably remote.

"As to form of individual contract they offered the members of the Actors Equity Association a better contract than they or their council had ever considered for the protection of the actor in fulfillment of contract, they conceded the Actors Equity Association full power to represent and arbitrate for the individual actor.

"As a means of prevention of future sympathetic strikes on the part of the actors, stage hands or musicians they submitted a proposal of notice and arbitration.

"This was rejected by the Actors Equity Association.

"As assurance that the actor would be free to fulfill his contracts in the future, a clause was proposed by which neither the actor nor the manager could be permitted a violation of contract because of any action taken by any association to which either belonged.

"This was rejected by the Actors Equity Association.

"The Producing Managers Association proposed a five year agreement with the Actors Equity Association, which was rejected by the Actors Equity Association.

"The Actors Equity Association refused to agree to a plan by which the actors would work with members of the Actors Equity League, or any other organization, or no organization.

"The Actors Equity Association refused to accept any mention of the Actors Equity League.

"The Producing Managers Association sought reasonable guarantees against closed shop and strikes. The Actors Equity Association refused anything that the Producing Managers would construe as reasonable guarantees.

"The Producing Managers' communication was civil and in no sense unbecomingly so. The Actors Equity Association terminated with the following paragraph: 'We add, however, that the use of the word "unacceptable" in this letter means that those whom we represent have taken, with reference to the matter referred to, a position which, as expressed in our letter, is definite and final.'

"The Producing Managers Association now plans the reopening of all theatres.

Answer Sent to Managers.

Answering the statement of the Producing Managers Association Justus Sheffield, an attorney for the Actors Equity Association, issued a statement this morning which said:

"This statement is a gross misrepresentation of negotiations which have been pending since August 24 between

attorneys representing the Shuberts on the one hand and attorneys for the Actors Equity Association on the other for the termination of the present strike. It may be interesting to the public to learn that the persons conducting the negotiations were pledged to absolute secrecy. Now the managers vainly imagine that they may obtain some tactical advantage therefrom if they openly violate the pledge, the request for which came from them in the first instance. This of course relieved us from any obligation to hold as confidential these negotiations or any part thereof.

"The opening assertion in the Hopkins statement that the proposed contract presented by the managers 'outlined conditions under which the present strike could be terminated, is untrue.

"Not a single attorney or any other person concerned in the preparation of the proposed contract had the slightest knowledge of the conditions which the outline of conditions which was presented in the present strike could be terminated. On the contrary this proposed contract contains practically every provision that had for several days been fully discussed by attorneys on both sides and definitely rejected by the Equity.

"The proposed contract bears every evidence of having been drawn with full knowledge that it would be rejected, and having been presented, not in good faith, but for the express purpose of being rejected in order that the managers might stage a grandstand play to the public in the hope that they thereby might gain some small amount of public sympathy for their position, which sympathy has hitherto been so conspicuous.

"The Equity, however, welcomes the opportunity to bring to a definite issue negotiations for a settlement which promised to become interminable.

"It is scarcely necessary to add that the suggestion in Mr. Hopkins' statement that 'the Equity rejected provision necessary to insure against a closed shop' is a falsehood.

"In the draft agreement approved by the Equity, of which the managers' proposed contract is a modification, it was expressly agreed that Equity members would not insist upon a closed shop, but would work with non-members whether they were members of any other organization or no organization.

"The statement that the Producing Managers Association now plans the reopening of all theatres is interesting, but not important."

## Peace Seemed Assured.

After being on the verge of a settlement with the actors on Wednesday night, the managers failed to reach an agreement with attorneys from the Equity early yesterday and the pipe of peace almost sputtered out despite an unsupported report that the end of the strike and recognition of the Equity was practically assured on the basis of a pledge from the actors and the stage hands, binding for five years, that they would not demand a closed shop and would not seek to crowd members of the Actors Equity League out of the spotlight.

However, all hopes of peace were not abandoned, and it was said that the managers had not broken off negotiations entirely, having suspended them until Friday or Saturday at the latest, when it was hoped the stage hands would clear their way clear to giving unquestionable guarantees that they would permit an open shop. If the stage hands were amenable by Saturday, it seemed possible that a love feast would be likely by then.

A. H. Woods, referring to reports that he was willing to seek a separate peace, said yesterday: "I stand with the managers, and am willing to settle this matter, with recognition for the Equity as an association, providing the actors, and particularly the stage hands, will give binding assurances they will not demand hereafter a closed shop."

Wilson is Optimistic

Francis Wilson, president of the Actors Equity Association, said: "I feel a settlement of the strike is imminent." Then he added, apparently without any intention of satirizing himself: "But I have felt that way many times."

Mr. Wilson stated that the Equity demands are the same as they have always been, but indicated that if the strike is prolonged the demands might be made over to suit the changing styles. He reaffirmed the Equity's position sustaining the open shop, and referring to the reports that the stage hands were probably insisting on a closed shop, the president asserted that the Equity is absolutely autonomous in deciding its own destinies, and that no other laboring body exercises mandatory powers over it.

The big wind that was understood to herald trouble from the vaudeville performers died down yesterday with the announcement that the open house meeting of the vaudeville branch of the Associated Actors and Artists of America at the Amsterdam Opera House, scheduled for to-night, had been postponed indefinitely, thereby turning the strike scene in the vaudeville field cold. This news palpitated forth in the following ukase from James William Fitzpatrick and Harry Monfort, constituting the board of strategy of the present organization on whom the mantle of destiny has descended from the defunct White Rate.

"Because in the present crisis we do not wish to embarrass or in any way prejudice the situation, either in vaudeville or the legitimate, and to avoid any chance of misapprehension or misunderstanding, we have decided to postpone to-morrow night's meeting at the Amsterdam Opera House to a future date, which will be duly announced."

Another postponement was announced exclusively to all the New York papers in the third premiere of "The Challenge" at the Selwyn Theatre, which was deferred from to-night, it was stated, until to-morrow night to give the twenty non-union stage hands time to get on better terms with the scenery. The cast will be the same as that which went down fighting bravely when it was sunk by the Equity before.

Rehearsal Is Held.

Louis Mann took enough time out from developing merry quips for the next Fidelity League meeting to rehearse for "Friendly Enemies," which is slated to open at the Manhattan Opera House on Monday, though there seemed to be doubt yesterday as to whether Mr. Mann's new commitment of monoplane wing collars would arrive on time for the show to

open on that date. The other managers went ahead with preparations for their announced opening, F. Ziegfeld, Jr., apparently being undismayed by the statement from the Cantrells that if the "Follies" are resurrected at the New Amsterdam Theatre next week Van and Schenck, Johnny and Ray Dooley and Eddie Dowling would be missing, not to mention the Cantrell mustache.

When the attention of Hugh Frayne, general organizer for the State Federation of Labor, was called to the projected reopening with non-union employees the union leader said that the federation would use every means at its command to seal the theatres as tight as tombs again.

The Actors Fidelity League will hold a mass meeting for members only in the Hotel Biltmore to-night, shortly after the last rumble of thunder has died away from the regular Equity meeting at the Lexington Theatre, and these two gatherings give assurance that even if the theatres are closed entertainment will not be lacking. Another meeting in the immediate future is that of the movie ushers and ticket takers in the smaller houses, who under the banner of the Moving Picture Attendants Union assembled at the end of night—that is, 12 o'clock—at Golden Rule Hall, 125 Livingston street, on Tuesday and take steps to bring the cinema operatives of the various boroughs of the city into their fellowship.

Equity to Have Honoraries.

The Equity executive council yesterday created the position of honorary associate, open to laymen who were willing to forego the privilege of influencing liability and voting at meetings in return for the privilege of handing over \$25. They announced also that from September 1 to 3 more than 500 new members have been enrolled by the Equity, and that Margaret Lawrence denied the charge that the Fidelity ally the way from Chicago.

At the request of J. Henry Smythe, Jr., who is conducting the agitation for the removal of the Methodist Episcopal Church of its ban on dancing, theatre-going and card playing, the Producing Managers Association yesterday passed a resolution urging the General Conference at Des Moines next May to permit theatre-going, the unofficial understanding being that the managers voted on this matter in the time honored proportion of 36 to 6. It was denied at the managerial press bureau, however, that six of the managers were opposed to theatre-going.

The Equity Theatrical Syndicate announced that they will go into the book business throughout the country, making their first plunge toward wresting control of some of the stage industry from the hands of the Actors Theatre in Newark to-morrow night, when they will book their initial production, "Roger Gray's Revue," which has been playing the provinces, at the Savoy Avenue Theatre as "The Equity Revue."

## NO COAL SHORTAGE, PREDICTS PEABODY

Hines Says Operators Will  
Try to Blame Railroads.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 4.—Sharp differences of opinion on the probable coal situation this winter were expressed by Director-General of Railroads Hines and F. S. Peabody, formerly of the Fuel Administration, to-day before the Senate Interstate Commerce Subcommittee investigating increases in the price of coal.

Director-General Hines declared the coal operators would lay stress on transportation difficulties to explain the increased coal prices, although in his opinion the railroads would be able to move all the coal necessary. Mr. Peabody denied that unduly high prices were being charged for coal and said legislation calculated to alter the laws of supply and demand would not remedy the coal problem. He added there was no probability of a coal shortage this winter unless deliveries were held up by a shortage of cars or by labor troubles.

The mines of America can supply 40 per cent. more coal than the possible demands of the country, Mr. Peabody asserted, and the labor supply is adequate. He declared the cutting down of the railroad storage to 8,000,000 tons was reducing the roads' stockpiles, and day fuel supply, which might result in confiscation of coal supplies by the railroads.

The Director-General suggested that the Government retain enough of its "war power" to enable it to control coal prices until normal conditions were restored, and that the Government should not be kept before the public while it should not stand.

John H. Sherburne of Massachusetts told the committee that in New England there now was a shortage of approximately 33 per cent. in bituminous coal.

## 6 Y. M. C. A. MEN GO TO SIBERIA

Another Party of Nine to Leave on September 21.

Six Y. M. C. A. workers sailed from Vancouver, B. C., yesterday on board the steamship Empress of Asia for service in Siberia, according to word received here by the National War Work Council. They are Edward R. Cole, 1049 Sterling place, Brooklyn; Clarence D. Haggard and William W. Sigler, Bay-side; James R. Trowbridge, 244 Lexington avenue; Paul Leo Lambert, Newark, and Elmer E. Taylor, Indianapolis.

Another party of nine Y. M. C. A. workers, including five from this city and New Jersey, will sail September 21 on board the Empress of Japan. They will include one woman, Mrs. Teresa L. Blackburn, 3501 Avenue I, Brooklyn. The others will be Robert Jackson, Hasbrouck Heights, N. J.; Adrian J. Good, Rutherford, N. J.; Frederick J. Crockett, Philadelphia; N. J.; John W. Varley, Elizabeth, N. J.; J. L. Moody, Manhattan; B. C. Merriman, Hellgate Falls, N. Y.; and Clarence J. Link, Cleveland.

## ENVOYS OF EQUITY ARRIVE IN LONDON

They Will Present Their  
Version of Strike Here.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun from the London Times Service.

LONDON, Sept. 4.—Samuel Karraida, whose stage name is Paul Kay; Charles G. Muller and J. Morrison Taylor have arrived in London as representatives of the Actors Equity Association of America to present a complete record of the actors' strike to the British Actors Association.

All three made the trip across the Atlantic in the role of third class stewards, thus receiving free passage and earning a wage at the same time. This method of travelling was adopted by Mr. Karraida to avoid the expense of securing passports and also with the object of lessening the expense of the mission.

Ferryboat Rama Launch 1. Lost.

A small motor launch belonging to Julius Schwimmer of 189 South Ninth street, Brooklyn, was making its way down river yesterday afternoon when the Erie Railroad ferryboat Goshen, with hundreds of passengers on board, started out of its slip at Chambers street, en route to Jersey City. The launch was directly in its course and before the ferry could be put over the little craft disappeared beneath the ferry's prow. Abraham Liberman, who was with Schwimmer in the small craft, clung to a piece of the wreckage and was rescued, but the latter was drowned.

## POSAM BRINGS QUICK COMFORT TO ANGRY SKIN

When angry itching skin cries through every nerve of your body for relief, turn to Posam and let it soothe and allay all inflammation. Learn how efficient Posam is, what splendid help it can render in making excessive disposing of rashes, pimples, acne, scalp scales and like disorders. The test is to apply Posam at night to a small affected surface and in the morning to look for improvement. The effect of concentrated healing energy shows agreeably soon.

Sold everywhere. For free sample write to Emergency Laboratories, 242 West 47th St., New York City.

Urges your skin to become clearer, freer, better by the daily use of Posam Soap, medicated with Posam—44c.

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## \$50,000 IN DRUGS AND 5 MEN SEIZED

Prisoners About to Depart  
With Granulated Opium  
and Cocaine.

BELONGED TO DOPE RING

Betrayed by Express Clerk  
They Sought to Bribe to  
Guard Satchels.

Agents of the Internal Revenue Bureau who followed the trail of two small packing cases that held \$50,000 worth of granulated opium and cocaine arrested five men yesterday. The arrests, it was said, took place in a ring that has operated on a big scale to divert opium and cocaine from the rigorously regulated legitimate traffic for use by illicit dealers in drugs.

The prisoners were Samuel Rosenblatt, dealer in drugs and chemicals at 83 Fulton street; Thomas A. Shaw of Minneapolis; Joseph Beaulieu and Henri Marchessault, French Canadians, and Samuel Kossin, an employee of Rosenblatt.

Opium is among the most expensive of drugs. Only addicts in the most prosperous circumstances have been able to continue indulgence in it as the cost climbed. Granulated opium, which is worth \$55 an ounce, is cooked to make smoking opium. Its quantity is greatly increased in the process. Cocaine sells at from \$55 to \$300 an ounce, and the most expensive grades are usually adulterated with sugar of milk for distribution among addicts.

Habit forming drugs may be sold through registered dealers with transactions recorded on forms supplied by the Internal Revenue Bureau. The Harrison law restrictions do not apply, however, to drugs intended for export, and the defendants are alleged to have tried to make use of the exemption to cover their scheme. The seized cases are alleged to have been given to the American Railway Express Company ostensibly for shipment to Winnipeg, Canada, and that the attempt to be withdrawn surreptitiously from the carrier through the connivance of a clerk.

Agent Ralph H. Oyler arrested Beaulieu and Marchessault as they were placing the two cases in a taxicab at

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Labor Leader Resting Well  
After Removal of Gall Stones.

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The operation was performed at the Post Graduate Hospital by Dr. John F. Erdmann, and according to information received at Mr. Mitchell's home in Mount Vernon, he was resting well after recovery from the effects of the operation. It was said the labor union head had been suffering for a long time past from the affliction which necessitated his going under the knife. Members of his family were besieged during the day with inquiries from his various associates in official and labor circles.

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